GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7011
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2005
TRANSMISSION OF PROGRAMMES IN BENGALI LANGUAGE
Mahato Shri Bir Sing

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programmes in Bengali language are not being transmitted in the several parts of West Bengal adjoining Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to upgrade the transmitters of Doordarshan covering the adjoining areas of West Bengal?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (c) : Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan`s terrestrial signals are available to 97.1 % of the population of West Bengal. Areas not covered by terrestrial coverage in the State and other parts of the country (excluding the A&N Islands ) can now receive the DD`s Ku Band transmission service (DTH) with its bouquet consisting of 33 TV channels including DD Bangla, and 12 Radio channels with the help of a small sized dish receive unit.

In so far as All India Radio is concerned, Programmes in Bengali language are broadcast from all stations located in West Bengal and is available to about 99% of the population in the State. There is, therefore, no scheme to upgrade TV transmitters in West Bengal in the areas adjoining Jharkhand.